Toronto metro

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TOO WHITE, TOO MANY MEN
We need more #WomenOnBoards metroNEWS

CASTRO SHAPED MY FAMILY'S HISTORY — AND THIS PHOTO PROVES IT
Our very own Andres Plana
metroVIEWS

Toronto metro

Your essential daily news | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2016 | High 11°C/Low 7°C Partly cloudy

FROM RUSSIA WITH ... LOVE?
Putin calls Trump to talk politics
metroNEWS

TO FIX OUR BIG HOUSING CRISIS — THINK SMALL

A new campaign is urging the city to add apartments like this to Toronto alleyways metroNEWS

EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

$2,000 break for first-time buyers equated to 'a free spring roll when you go out to dinner'

Porter's close call with, well, no one knows

AIR TRAVEL

Pilots narrowly avoid mid-air collision with mystery object

A drone? A weather balloon? A piece of garbage swept up by the wind?

The pilots of a Porter Airlines flight inbound to Toronto on Monday morning were forced to put their plane into a sudden dive to avoid a mid-air collision with an unidentified object high over Lake Ontario, causing minor injuries to two flight attendants.

Now investigators with the Transportation Safety Board of Canada admit they have a puzzle on their hands to determine exactly what the pilots had to avoid.

"Nobody knows at this point. It happened so quick," said Peter Rowntree, senior regional investigator with the safety board.

"We've got our work cut out trying to figure out what this unidentified flying object was. What did they encounter?" Rowntree said. "It definitely wasn't a bird. It was a fairly large object," he said, describing it as up to three metres wide.

There were initial concerns that the object was an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), or drone, highlighting once again worries about their growing prevalence and the risks they pose to aviation.

Rowntree said it was too soon to say for sure. But he said the location of the incident — at 2,743 metres (9,000 feet) over the lake near the U.S. border, far from shore — is reason for concern if it was a drone.

The Porter Dash 8-400 turboprop was on its initial approach to Toronto's Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport from Ottawa when the two pilots saw they were on a collision course. They had mere seconds to spot the object and react to avoid the danger.

"They essentially just pushed the nose down to get underneath it," Rowntree said, noting that the aircraft was travelling at almost 450 kilometres per hour.

The proliferation and capability of unmanned aerial vehicles has been a growing worry for pilots who fear a catastrophic mid-air collision. By Sept. 1, there had been 82 reports of potential UAV infractions in Canada this year, compared to 97 in all of 2015 and 61 in 2014, according to Transport Canada.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TTC's routine adjustment sounds awful lot like cuts metro NEWS

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

McDonald's has made a Nutella Burger. Yes, really. **Business**

WHITE IDENTITY

Racist posters dot city

Toronto city staff and police are investigating after signs targeting white people "sick of being blamed for all the world's problems" and urging them to "join the alt-right" were spotted in the city.

Kevin Kerr, principal at Cardinal Léger Catholic School, said his family caregiver was walking his children to school through Stan Wadlow Park in East York on Monday morning when they came across the poster.

The poster lists websites associated with the alt-right, a movement associated with promotion of white identity and sometimes supremacy.

Toronto Police spokesperson Victor Kwong said police have received many reports about the signs and have taken them down.

Similar signs were spotted in different areas across the city.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Websites associated with the alt-right movement are listed on the poster. @KERRETEACH VIA THE CANADIAN PRESS

The kids are not all right, national movement says

CHILD POVERTY

Children First aims to hold governments accountable

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

As a new report paints yet another gloomy picture of child poverty in the city, a Toronto woman is leading a national movement to protect and empower children everywhere.

Children First Canada, a nonprofit launching this week, takes aim at dispelling what founder Sara Austin calls the general misconception that Canadian children are thriving because they live in one of the most prosperous nations on Earth.

"They are not all right and the statistics are pretty jarring," Austin said.

From lacking adequate food and proper health care to facing issues of child abuse and bullying, Canada is ranked 17th out of 29 affluent nations for children's well-being, according to UNICEF's global index. Most vulnerable are indigenous children, kids in single parent homes, youth in foster care and refugee children, the report says.

LAUNCH

- Children First Canada will officially be launched Wednesday at Toronto's Marriott Downtown Eaton Centre.
- Speakers at the event include RBC board chair Kathleen Taylor, ME to WE motivational speaker Hannah Alper and CTV News anchor Lisa LaFlamme.

It echoes the findings of a report released Monday by a coalition of social agencies, showing 27 per cent of Toronto's children live in poverty and reclaiming the city's title as "child poverty capital" of Canada.

"As a mother and a citizen, these things make me angry. I don't know why there isn't more outrage," said Austin, who has worked in the nonprofit sector for more than 20 years.

Children First Canada's mission is to be a champion for children's interests, engaging government and the private sector to address many issues affecting kids' ability to succeed in their lives. Those challenges include access to education, increasing levels of obesity and access to proper housing, Austin said.

Sara Austin is launching Children First Canada to address what she considers a lack of advocacy on behalf of children in government and private sector circles. CONTRIBUTED

By bringing together the efforts of community organizations and children ambassadors, the charity hopes to be a loud voice in holding municipal, provincial and federal governments more accountable to children's causes.

First among demands the charity will be fronting is the appointment of a children's commissioner, an independent officer of the federal government charged solely with establishing policies that make children's lives better.

The charity will also be calling for a children's budget, detailing how much the country invests in children and evaluating the impact of the spending. Another demand will be the establishment of a platform to involve children in public policymaking.

"Children are experts in their own lives," said Austin. "We can and must do better in fighting poverty and ensuring the welfare of our children."

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REAL ESTATE

Tax break is like a 'free spring roll'

News that the provincial government is doubling the tax break given to first-time home buyers — from $2,000 to $4,000 — was greeted with a collective shrug from housing advocates and aspiring homeowners in Toronto.

"Thanks, but what's $2,000 when you're looking at climbing an $800,000 mountain?" said Nicolas Petraglia, who participated in Mayor John Tory's housing roundtable last month. "It's like getting a free spring roll when you go out to dinner … it's not going to do anything for affordable housing."

The change — announced Monday by Ontario Finance Minister Charles Sousa — takes effect Jan. 1 and means first-time buyers will not pay land transfer tax on the first $386,000 of the cost of their homes.

While any help is welcome, the consensus among housing advocates and experts in Toronto is that the rebate is too small to have an impact on the city's red-hot housing market.

"I'd be surprised if it had much effect at all," said Bill Whyte, a vice-president at Meridian Credit Union.

"If we're trying to help people in Toronto stay in Toronto, this announcement doesn't put much forward," echoed Aron Levitz with the tech company Wattpad, which hosted Tory's housing summit in October.

"It's a nice gesture, but how will this slow the market in the city or help people already priced out of the current housing market?"

Sousa also pledged to freeze property taxes on apartment buildings, in a bid to offer some relief for renters.

Petraglia said that's a good "first step." But, he wants the legislation to require landlords to pass any savings on to tenants. LUKE SIMCOE/METRO

POLICE

Lawyers offer help after park arrests

A coalition of Toronto lawyers is offering pro bono legal support to those charged in an undercover sex sting by local police.

Police have charged 73 people after a crackdown on public sex in Etobicoke's Marie Curtis Park. The majority of those charged were men who solicited plainclothes male officers.

Marcus McCann, a lawyer with Symes Street & Millard, is one of the people offering help. He called the police response "out of all proportion to the complaints that were raised" by the community.

"Men have been charged with relatively minor offences for the way they conduct their sexual lives, most famously during the 1981 bathhouse raids," he said. "But we know from experience that if they fight the charges, the charges often disappear."

LUKE SIMCOE/METRO

Tiny answer to big housing problem

LANEWAYS

Advocates say it's time to look at smaller sites for homes

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

When it comes to solving Toronto's growing housing crunch, a coalition of advocates, developers and politicians are urging the city to think small.

Non-profit Evergreen is launching a campaign Tuesday geared towards growing the number of laneway suites in Toronto. The citywide consultation will be done in partnership with laneway advocacy group Lanescape, as well as city councillors Mary-Margaret McMahon and Ana Bailão.

Often referred to as coach houses or granny suites, laneway suites are small, detached units typically located at the rear of residential lots adjacent to alleyways. Housing advocates claim the suites can increase rental stock, help beautify back alleys and generate extra income for property owners.

"How many people today say they can't afford a home in our city, or can't afford to rent a home because rents are at an all-time high?" Bailão said. "Laneway suites can help us address some of these issues while protecting something that we love: the character of our neighbourhoods."

There are some laneway suites in Toronto, often called coach houses, but almost all of them are older units that were either built illegally or grandfathered in under city policy. EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

250
The number of kilometres of laneways in Toronto.

But there's one problem: New laneway suites aren't allowed under Toronto's zoning laws — despite a request from the province that municipalities get on board.

Klaus Lehmann, manager of zoning for the city, says it can be difficult — and costly — to provide services to laneway homes, including things like hydro, garbage pickup, stormwater management and snow clearing.

"You can say you want laneway housing, but there's a practical side that needs to be addressed that has an impact on the rest of the community," he said.

Other cities in Canada have developed policies to facilitate laneway suites. Vancouver launched a new laneway housing policy in 2009, and now allows secondary suites to be built behind most detached homes.

Evergreen project manager Jo Flatt said the goal of the consultations will be to find out what residents want to see in their laneways and discover whether policies from other cities can be adapted to the Toronto context.

MEETING

The citywide consultation on laneway suites takes place Dec. 5 at Evergreen Brick Works (550 Bayview Ave.). For more information, visit lanescape.ca/survey.

BUDGET

Toronto Hydro to reduce city payout

Toronto Hydro is slashing its annual dividend to the City of Toronto, blowing a $35-million hole in the city's 2017 budget plan.

Hydro on Monday announced that the dividend, which has fluctuated between $25 million in 2010 and $56.25 million last year, will be $25 million.

City council's proposed budget plan to guide debate assumes $60 million from Hydro. If council includes that amount in its spending, it translates into an additional 1.35-per-cent property tax hike. If council instead cuts spending to accommodate the lost revenue, there could be a major reduction in city services or poverty-reduction efforts.

The announcement comes amid a brewing debate over whether the city should sell a minority stake in the century-old utility to free up money for Mayor John Tory's SmartTrack transit plan, social housing and Hydro infrastructure.

Hydro, which the Star and other media outlets reported was considering eliminating the dividend altogether, said in a news release the cut is "necessary to maintain the safety and reliability of the electricity grid and to help the company keep pace with unprecedented growth in Toronto."

Hydro board member David McFadden, who becomes chair in December, told reporters the move was driven by Hydro's rising debt level compared to capital holdings — 63.3 per cent, above the ceiling favoured by regulator the Ontario Energy Board and the bond-rating agencies that determine Toronto Hydro's borrowing costs.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

$ YEAR BY YEAR

Dividends from Toronto Hydro paid to city

- **2010:** $25 million
- **2011:** $33.1 million
- **2012:** $48 million
- **2013:** $43 million
- **2014:** $60.6 million
- **2015:** $56.25 million

SOURCE: TORONTO HYDRO

'Outrageous' changes planned for transit

BUSES AND STREETCARS

Advocacy group calls them cuts, but TTC says it's all routine

Service on more than a dozen TTC bus and streetcar routes across the city is being reduced. The TTC says it's a routine adjustment to meet changing demand, but a transit advocacy group is calling it a service cut.

"Riders are going to be waiting longer for their bus and their streetcar starting this month," said Jessica Bell, executive director of TTCriders, who in a news release last month described the proposed service changes as "outrageous."

The TTC is facing lower-than-expected ridership this year, and Bell said the agency should be trying to attract more customers by improving transit. "They should be increasing service, not cutting it," she declared.

As part of the planned changes, which will start Sunday, buses and streetcars will run slightly less frequently or have pared-down operating hours. According to the TTC website, the 43B Kennedy bus will run every 15 minutes during midday, instead of every 10, while the 73C Royal York will run every 15 minutes instead of every 13. Service on the 514 Cherry streetcar will start slightly later in the day and end earlier.

Service on the 504 King streetcar, the transit agency's busiest surface route, will be "reduced slightly" on Roncesvalles Ave. and Broadview Ave. between 5:30 a.m. and 7 a.m., and 8 p.m. and 9 p.m., Monday to Friday. The streetcars will still run every 10 minutes or less.

According to ridership figures published by the TTC, as of August the transit agency had carried 349.4 million passengers, short of the 358.6 million it had budgeted for. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The TTC describes the reduced service as an adjustment made so that service more closely matches demand.

DARREN CALABRESE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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#Women on boards

Got it Right

The National Arts Centre is one of only four Crown corporations where women outnumber men at the board table.

Adrian Burns (far left), board chairwoman for the National Arts Centre Board of Trustees, with fellow NAC board members. SUPPLIED

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

Most Crown corporations fall short of gender parity on their boards — but a select few do have more women than men.

A Metro Ottawa analysis found only four of the 42 federal Crown corporations have boards with more women than men.

Those boards are:

- The National Arts Centre, where five of the nine current board members are women;
- The Federal Bridge Corporation, where five of the seven board members are women;
- The International Development Research Centre, where seven of the 12 board members are women; and,
- The Canadian Museum for Human Rights, where seven of the 10 board members are women.

The NAC's board chair, Adrian Burns, said the balance on their board was not something they deliberately sought out, but it reflects a strong group of applicants.

"It was merit-based, because they were all on a list of three to four finalists," she said. "Their contribution is most certainly equal to any other group that could be or has been appointed."

Burns, who also serves on several private boards, said she doesn't notice a large difference with the majority female board, but she says she believes that women do have different approaches than men.

"They're very detail-oriented, and so I think we probably have a level of scrutiny that would match any board anywhere, corporate or Crown," she said.

> **Their contribution is most certainly equal.**
> Adrian Burns

She said the NAC is always trying to expand its reach, highlighting the search for a new artistic director of Indigenous Theatre.

She said that's just one example of where they are trying to better reflect Canada's diversity, and she hopes the federal government considers that when they make their board appointments.

"We would hope that the government is looking towards that for our board members as well."

Others who got it right

- Federal Bridge Corporation (5 out of 9 board members are women)
- International Development Research Centre (5 out of 7 board members are women)
- Canadian Museum for Human Rights (7 out of 10 board members are women)

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A Metro special focus

Got it Wrong

The Laurentian Pilotage Authority and the Canadian Dairy Commission are the only Crown corporations currently without any women on their boards.

Board of the Laurentian Pilotage Authority. SUPPLIED

The only thing in the photograph of the Laurentian Pilotage Authority's board that sticks out is the bow tie.

The seven members of the Crown corporation's board are all white – and all men.

A review by Metro Ottawa found the authority, along with the Canadian Dairy Commission, are the only two of the federal government's 42 Crown corporations without any women on their boards.

The authority manages sea traffic in the St. Lawrence River, helping to guide large ships through the river and into harbours.

Pilotage authority CEO Fulvio Fracassi said they're aware there is a problem and they are encouraged by the federal Liberal government's efforts to open up board memberships.

"The Laurentian Pilotage Authority is fully supportive of this initiative and we're collaborating with the minister's office and Transport Canada," he said.

Fracassi said that while the federal cabinet approves the agency's board members, they reach out to industry to find suitable candidates and are encouraging companies to look within their ranks for potential board members.

He said some of the current board members' terms have expired and they hope to have replacements soon.

The government has three other Crown Corporations with similar mandates — the Great Lakes Pilotage Authority, which has seven seats and one woman on its board; the Pacific Pilotage Authority, which has seven seats and three women; and, the Atlantic Pilotage Authority, which has seven seats and three women.

The industry remains largely male-dominated, Fracassi said, making it harder to find candidates from which to draw.

> **The industry itself is not very diverse.**
> Pilotage authority CEO Fulvio Fracassi

"The industry itself is not very diverse," he said. "If you look at the number of pilots it's primarily composed of men."

No one from the Canadian Dairy Commission was available to speak with Metro, despite repeated attempts over several days.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

Others who got it wrong

- Canadian Dairy Commission (Not one of the board members is a woman)
- Great Lakes Pilotage Authority (1 out of 7 board members is a woman)
- Marine Atlantic (1 of the 10 board members is a woman)

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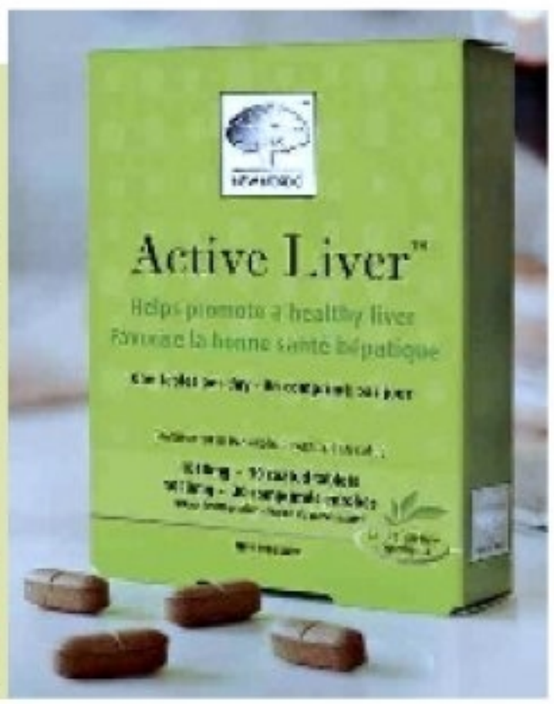

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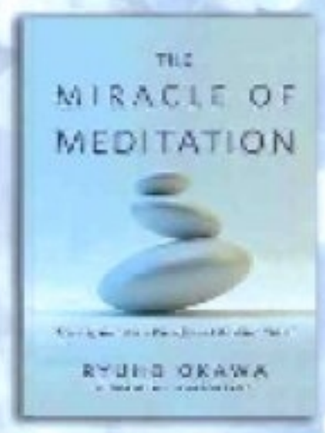

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Have a boat, Ireland — it's on the house

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Canadian man sends a gift to homeless youth across an ocean

Declan Murphy's nephews outside the houseboat. COURTESY DECLAN MURPHY

Almost 3,300 kilometres away from where it started its voyage, a Canadian houseboat mysteriously washed up on the shores of Cross Beach in Belmullet, Ireland, early Monday morning.

The Ballyglass Coast Guard secured and pulled the boat out of the water. An onlooker described it as an "unusual vessel."

During its investigation, the coast guard found a message written on the walls: "I, Rick Small, donate this structure to a homeless youth. To give them a better life that Newfoundlanders choose not to do! No rent. No mortgage. No hydro."

Photographs of the boat, described as a combination of "scraps," have been shared widely, publicized by Irish media outlets. Quite a few people made their way out to the beach to take a look inside the craft.

"(I was) intrigued to see how this man-made vessel from all sorts of leftover materials … could make such a treacherous journey," Declan Murphy, a U.K. resident who is visiting his parents in Belmullet, said.

After hearing about the incident on local radio, Murphy decided to bring his two nephews down to the beach to see the vessel. Murphy described the craft as made out of car tires and wood planks, and held together with what appears to be "road tar."

Just as mysterious as the vessel's appearance is the whereabouts of the person who appears to have built it. Rick Small, a native of Thunder Bay, Ont., is known as the man who rode from B.C. to St. John's on a solar-powered bike in 2015.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SPIES

Don't get caught catching 'em all

Canada's spies are guarding against a new threat to operational security: Pokémon.

Canada's electronic spy agency issued guidelines for spooks and employees playing Pokémon Go, a popular augmented reality game.

Because the game requires location and camera data to play, it poses a risk to people who would rather not be tracked: like employees of the Communications Security Establishment (CSE), Canada's electronic spying agency.

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

The guidelines were circulated by CSE's American counterpart, the National Security Administration (NSA).

"Note that the information (used) by the game in the course of regular play could be used to deduce pattern of life," the unclassified memo reads.

The agency also recommended creating a dummy Google account, using a fake name not associated with your other online activities, like "Professor Oak."

CSE noted that camera data could be used to deduce location.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Refugees, wildfires push food-bank users up

An influx of refugees along with the impact of wildfires and low oil prices drove a 1.3 per cent increase in the number of people using food banks in Canada in 2016 compared to the previous year, a new report says.

HungerCount 2016, to be released Tuesday, shows 863,492 individuals relied on a food bank in March, up from 852,137 in March, 2015, with eight of 10 provinces experiencing a hike and three showing surges of more than 17 per cent.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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When Putin calls, Trump answers

U.S. POLITICS

Russian leader, president-elect talk terrorism, stronger ties

Russian President Vladimir Putin and President-elect Donald Trump spoke over the phone Monday to discuss future efforts to improve the U.S.-Russian ties, the Kremlin and Trump's office said.

"President-elect Trump noted to President Putin that he is very much looking forward to having a strong and enduring relationship with Russia and the people of Russia," Trump's office said in a statement.

The Kremlin said that Putin congratulated Trump on his victory and expressed Russia's readiness to "establish a partner-like dialogue with the new administration on the basis of equality, mutual respect and non-interference in domestic relations."

Vladimir Putin called Donald Trump on Monday to "offer his congratulations." LEFT: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS; RIGHT: AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Trump's office said that Putin called him to "offer his congratulations on winning a historic election."

"During the call, the two leaders discussed a range of issues including the threats and challenges facing the United States and Russia, strategic economic issues and the historical U.S.-Russia relationship that dates back over 200 years," it said.

In its readout of the phone call, the Kremlin added that both Putin and Trump agreed that the U.S.-Russian ties are in "extremely unsatisfactory" condition now.

"They spoke for active joint work to normalize ties and engage in constructive co-operation on a broad range of issues," it said, adding that Putin and Trump emphasized the need to develop trade and economic co-operation to give a strong basis to U.S.-Russia relations.

Putin and Trump also agreed on the need to combine efforts in the fight against their No. 1 enemy — "international terrorism and extremism" — and discussed the settlement of the Syrian crisis in that context, according to the Kremlin.

It said that Putin and Trump agreed to continue phone contacts and to plan a personal meeting in the future.

Trump said during the presidential campaign that he wants to be friends with Russia and join forces in the fight against the Islamic State group, yet he outlined few specifics as to how he would go about it. President Barack Obama began his presidency with a goal to "reset" ties with Russia, but they eventually plunged to the lowest point since the Cold War.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ZEALAND SCARED COWS Three cows stand stranded near Kaikoura, New Zealand on an island of grass in a paddock that was ripped apart after an earthquake Monday that triggered landslides and a small tsunami. New Zealand planned to send in military helicopters and a navy ship to rescue about 1,000 tourists and hundreds of residents who were stranded in the coastal town of Kaikoura after train and vehicle access was cut off. NEWSHUB/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Stock photo. Posed by model. © Ontario Securities Commission

INVESTMENT

Trudeau touts Canada's economic stability

Canada has no reason to worry about competing with the United States under incoming president Donald Trump when it comes to attracting international money for infrastructure, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Monday.

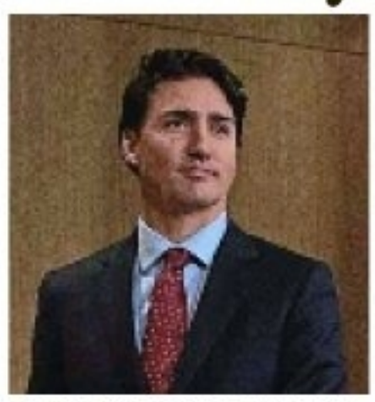
Speaking after a meeting with some of the world's wealthiest investor groups, Trudeau said Canada would have no trouble keeping up with the U.S. when it comes to luring in capital — it's just a matter of making sure the world's would-be investors are aware of its potential.

He repeatedly touted Canada's "stability" as a selling point, indirectly drawing attention to the political upheaval south of the border following the unexpected victory last week by the bombastic, protectionist, unpredictable Trump.

"I'm not worried about competing," Trudeau told a news conference. "Canada, with its economic, fiscal, political, social stability, is an extremely attractive place to do business (and) place to invest for global capital."

Trump has vowed to pump $1 trillion over 10 years into making America's infrastructure "second to none," through public-private partnerships and tax incentives to encourage private investment.

Trudeau is looking to attract some of the same global investors. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Justin Trudeau on Monday in Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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There's no meat in the McDonald's Sweety con Nutella.
COURTESY MCDONALD'S ITALIA

McNutella? Of course they did it

FOOD

Fast-food giant introduces a gooey chocolate 'burger' in Italy

McDonald's Italy has added a new item to its menu: the Nutella burger.

The announcement of the "Sweety con Nutella" on the restaurant's Italian Facebook page late last week caused an online frenzy.

Before panic could set in, it became clear that the "burger" is, in fact, meatless.

It consists of only a bun filled with Nutella.

By midday Monday, the Facebook post had been shared more than 90,000 times and received more than 73,000 comments.

The burger will cost two euros and be served at all 540 McDonald's and McCafés in Italy, according to a press release.

> **The sweetest burger ever sold at McDonald's.**
> McDonald's press release

"Sweety is the sweetest burger ever sold at McDonald's," read the press release.

Social media rejoiced over the fast food chain's newest menu addition.

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Tuesday, November 15, 2016

REFLECTION

Never far from Fidel

When Metro graphics editor **Andres Plana** found a picture of his grandmother cheering Fidel Castro in a 1959 issue of Life, he uncovered a part of his family's history and gained new perspective on the world and the power of photography. As Justin Trudeau embarks on a historic trip to Havana, Andres reflects on the regime that altered the course his life.

Andres Plana
Metro | Toronto

A scan of the original Life magazine spread documenting Castro's parade in Havana

Chiche Cabrera's face among the jubilation

Recently, I was in a WhatsApp group chat with members of my rather large extended family. Hailing from Latin America, we've dispersed around the world looking for better lives. Some have gone as far as China and Dubai. We maintain this chat as the best way to stay in touch.

On this particular day, out of nowhere, my brother posted an image with Fidel Castro shaking hands with a crowd in Havana. Not knowing what it meant, I disregarded it until my girlfriend told me my grandmother and aunt could be seen in the crowd.

Shaken, I immediately called my grandmother, Maria Amparo Cabrera de Plana (everyone calls her "Chiche"), in Miami. "Oh yeah, the photo with Fidel," she said, as matter-of-factly as could be. She sounded almost purposefully unimpressed.

I was suddenly obsessed with finding a physical copy of the photo, which my family told me had been published in Life Magazine. I searched public libraries, I contacted the archives at Time Inc. and I scoured Amazon and eBay, where eventually I found two copies of the Jan. 19, 1959 edition, dedicated to the man whose charisma helped drive the Cuban revolution to victory.

The cover of Life's Jan. 19, 1959, issue

I had the magazine, but it still wasn't enough. My grandmother had been present — physically present — at a moment that changed the world. I had to talk to her in person.

I bought a ticket to Miami and soon found myself blasted by AC while sitting in my aunt's dining room. My father, my sister and I wide-eyed and rapt, my beautiful grandmother dressed up because she knew she was getting her photo taken — all of us flipping through that issue of Life, page by page, travelling back in time.

It was 1959. The revolution led by Fidel Castro, his brother Raul and Ernesto "Che" Guevara had just taken down the dictator, Bautista. It was a time of celebration. Castro didn't have to hide during those early parades, my grandmother said. (A curious remark, it seemed to me.) "He had his route planned," she told me, in Spanish. "He wanted there to be lots of people on the streets with him."

The euphoria of that day didn't last, of course. The imprisonments, the executions, the fear — they came quickly.

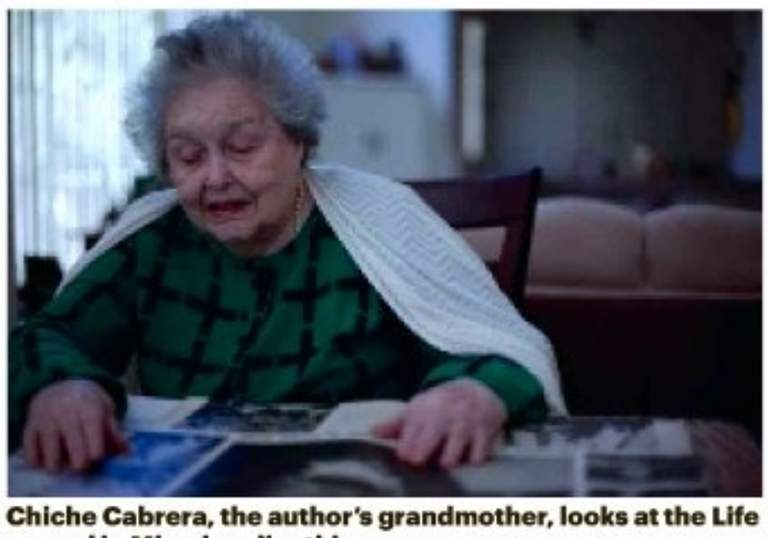
Within six months, my grandparents, along with my dad and his two siblings, had fled to Mexico. Ten years later, they moved to Venezuela — where I was born — to follow the oil industry. Cut to 1998: Venezuela elects Hugo Chavez, who cultivates a close alliance with Cuba. Once again, the story of my family became entangled with Castro.

Over time the situation in Venezuela deteriorated. Eventually we decided, again, that we needed to leave. This is how I came to Canada.

Today, Justin Trudeau travels to Cuba, and for a third time the public legacy of the old revolutionary-turned-dictator intersects with my family. I hope this time it's for the best.

I don't want to hate Fidel Castro. After all, in a weird way, he made me what I am.

Still, I know that I'll always have someone to blame for the sadness I feel when I wave goodbye to my family at the airport, hoping to see them again soon.



Chiche Cabrera, the author's grandmother, looks at the Life spread in Miami earlier this year. ANDRES PLANA/METRO

Our most vulnerable road users should welcome photo radar

TORY'S TORONTO

Matt Elliott

Welcome back, photo radar. You've been gone too long.

The Ontario government announced last week that they will introduce legislation allowing municipalities to use automated cameras to enforce speed limits in school zones and community safety zones. If you're caught on camera speeding, you'll get a ticket in the mail.

It's been more than 20 years since photo radar was last used in this province. The arguments against its return have never made much sense. Opponents call it a "cash grab" but concerns about the cash getting grabbed are countered by piles and piles of actual data. All of it points to the same conclusion: photo radar makes drivers slow down and makes streets safer.

Statistics compiled by the City of Toronto as part of the city's new road-safety plan tell the tale. In Edmonton, photo radar led to a 32.1 per cent reduction in collisions causing injury or death. In Chicago, photo radar was linked to a 31 per cent decrease in the number of speeding vehicles. In Winnipeg, intersections with photo radar saw a 24 per cent decline in collisions caused by excess speed.

If increased safety isn't enough to convince you, maybe the economic case will warm your cold capitalist heart. A 2005 study by Greg Chen for the School of Public Affairs at Barauch College found that British Columbia's photo-radar program saved taxpayers $114 million in a single year, primarily due to reduced emergency services costs.

That's significant.

And with technology getting cheaper, it stands to reason that photo radar could prompt even greater savings today. With the city facing a budget crunch, it makes zero sense to have police officers sitting roadside holding radar guns when cameras can do the same job.

Which brings me to my next question: why stop at just speed enforcement? With the cameras cheap and readily available, there's no reason this couldn't be used in other ways to catch drivers behaving badly.

Consider the issue of drivers parking or idling in bike lanes. Even with bollards and barriers, cyclists frequently encounter cars that have entered their dedicated space. This isn't just an annoyance. It's dangerous, forcing cyclists to merge into active traffic lanes.

Enforcing the laws would be trivial. Point some cameras at the obvious trouble spots and wait for the jerks to show up.

The same could go for nabbing drivers who blow past open streetcar doors. Or drive in lanes reserved for transit vehicles. Or do countless other dangerous and disruptive things.

Is this a slippery slope toward the surveillance state? I don't think so. Driving is a privilege, not a right. And with more than 40 pedestrians dead after collisions on Toronto's streets this year, I'm not worried about drivers' wallets.

I'm more worried about their recklessness.

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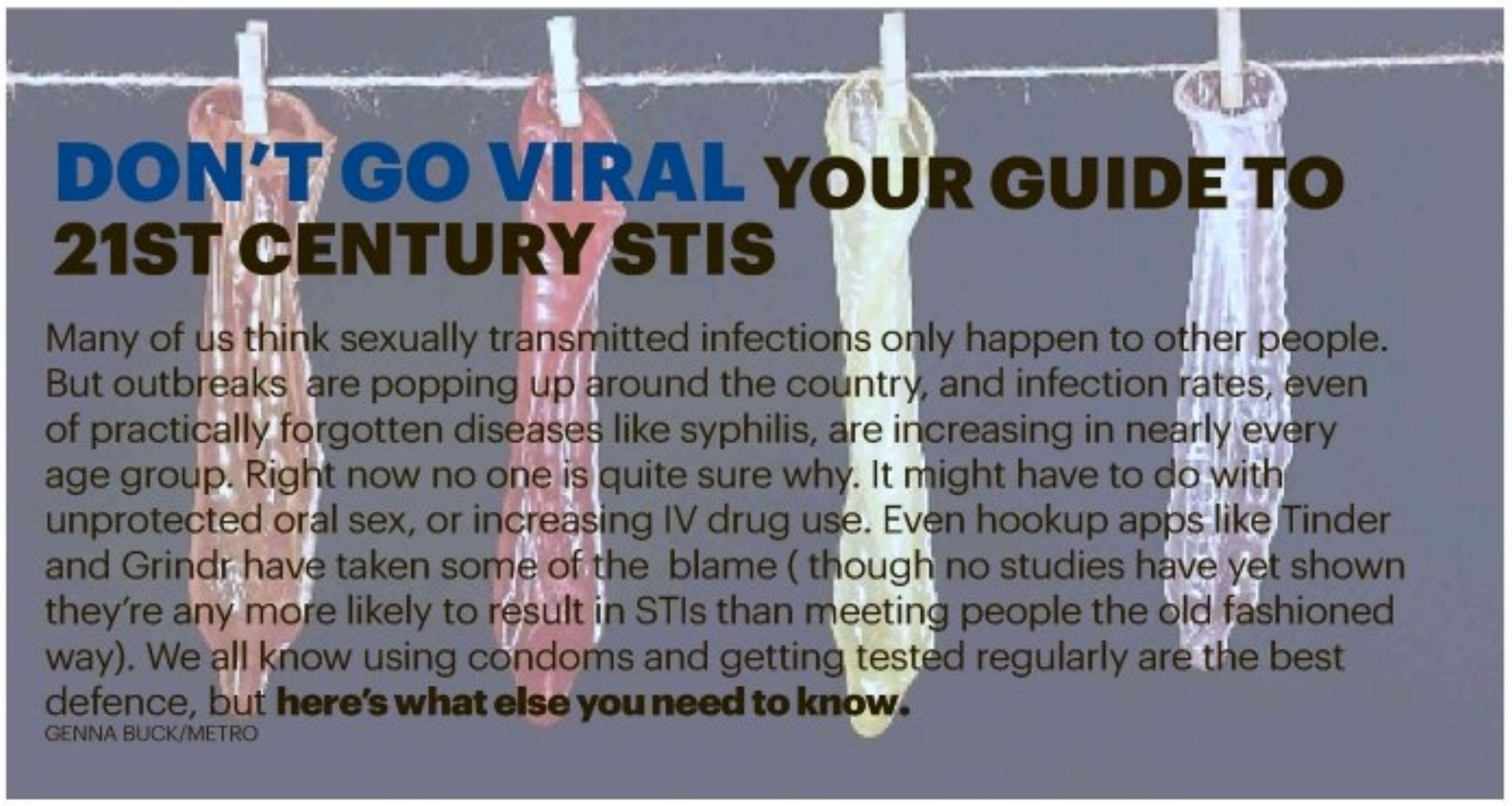
Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Judge orders Brendan Dassey, one of the subjects featured on Netflix's Making a Murderer documentary, released from prison.



DON'T GO VIRAL YOUR GUIDE TO 21ST CENTURY STIS

Many of us think sexually transmitted infections only happen to other people. But outbreaks are popping up around the country, and infection rates, even of practically forgotten diseases like syphilis, are increasing in nearly every age group. Right now no one is quite sure why. It might have to do with unprotected oral sex, or increasing IV drug use. Even hookup apps like Tinder and Grindr have taken some of the blame (though no studies have yet shown they're any more likely to result in STIs than meeting people the old fashioned way). We all know using condoms and getting tested regularly are the best defence, but **here's what else you need to know.**

GENNA BUCK/METRO

CHLAMYDIA

What is it? A bacterial STI that can cause itching, discharge and burning during urination in both sexes. Women sometimes have bleeding between periods or after sex, but often have no symptoms at all. In the long term, it can cause pelvic inflammatory disease in women and infertility in both sexes. It may infect the eyes, mouth and rectum as well.

What's new? Chlamydia has been rising in Canada since the 1990s. It increased by 72 per cent from 2001 to 2010 alone.

HERPES

What is it? Genital herpes is a common infection caused by the same virus as cold sores. In some people, it appears as an outbreak of blisters around the genitals, rectum or mouth. They burst and leave painful sores that take weeks to heal. Herpes is lifelong, but outbreaks usually become less severe and frequent as years pass.

What's new? Several therapeutic vaccines (for people who already have herpes) are in the works. A 12-month clinical trial published last month found a 65 per cent reduction in outbreaks among people who had the vaccine. And there's hope for a preventative vaccine in the future.

What can be done? Condoms lower the risk of passing on herpes, but don't eliminate it. Antiviral medications can help clear up an outbreak and reduce your chance of infecting someone else.

SYPHILIS

What is it? Syphilis is a bacterial infection that can progress into a devastating disease if left untreated. It's spread by sex as well as from mother to child. In adults, syphilis usually starts with a firm, painless, often-overlooked sore called a chancre on the genitals. Second-stage symptoms are fever, malaise, headache and a spotty red rash. The infection can then hibernate in the body for up to 15 years before reappearing in any number of nightmarish forms: As a progressive, severe neurological and psychiatric condition, as heart disease, or as large, tumour-like lumps all over the body.

What's new? Toronto has seen a scary spike in syphilis over the past year, mostly in gay men. Public health officials think unprotected oral sex may be to blame.

What can you do? Use condoms! Thanks to antibiotics, syphilis is now curable. It has a nasty habit of showing up in people who have HIV, and it's one reason it's important to have safe sex even if you're HIV positive and only have sex with other HIV-positive people. That's true for many STIs: One type often leads to another, because sores or irritated skin give germs an easier path into the body.

HPV

What is it? Human Papilloma Viruses (HPV) are sexually transmitted viruses that cause genital warts and can lead to heck, neck, mouth, throat, cervical and penile cancers.

What's new? There's been a steep rise in mouth and throat cancers in Canadian men (56 per cent between 1992 and 2012). Smoking and drinking are definitely culprits. But emerging research shows HPV is a much more important risk factor than previously thought.

What can you do? HPV is crazy common, and because it infects many parts of the body, condoms only provide partial protection. For women, getting a pap test every three years (or more often if you're high risk) can catch HPV-related changes early, when they're more treatable.

Vaccinations are available for boys, girls and adults (coverage varies by province) against the nastiest strains of HPV. They've been shown to dramatically reduce cervical cancers caused by the virus.

WHAT TO SAY?

Asking a new partner about STIs, or telling them you have one, is just the worst. But it has to be done, says Jenelle Marie Pierce, founder of The STD Project. Deciding how and when to tell a partner you have an STI is even tricker: It's not the most important thing about you, so disclosing on a first date seems like a bit much. But if you wait until you've gotten close, the news can come as a shock. Pierce has only one rule about when to disclose: **You have to have the conversation before you have sex — any kind of sex.** Her advice: Talk in person, in private (no texts!). Be honest and positive about yourself and your STI, share the facts in a no-nonsense way and answer questions. Then leave, and give them some time to digest the facts on their own.

GONORRHEA

What is it? A bacterial STI with very similar symptoms and long-term consequences as chlamydia, though it's much less common. Only a lab test can tell for sure. Unlike chlamydia, gonorrhea can, rarely, cause a serious disease with high fever and swollen joints.

What's new? Gonorrhea increased by 40 per cent from 2003 to 2012. Some cities, like Toronto, have seen a jump since 2015.

What can be done? Condoms and testing are the best defences against chlamydia and gonorrhea. Treatment is antibiotics. For gonorrhea, which is resistant to all but a few, you might need several different drugs.

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DeMar DeRozan was named Eastern Conference player of the week after averaging 34.7 points in three Raptors wins

Sluggers predictably pass on qualifying offers

Richard Griffin

The rejections were expected, formalities in the free-agent process. Jose Bautista and Edwin Encarnacion, two of the biggest names in this year's free-agent class, turned down qualifying offers from the Blue Jays on Monday.

And they weren't alone. Of the 10 players who received qualifying offers from their major-league teams, only two accepted the one-year, $17.2-million deals that will delay their free agency a year: Philadelphia Phillies right-hander Jeremy Hellickson and second baseman Neil Walker of the New York Mets.

8

Eight of the 10 players who received qualifying offers turned them down.

The eight refusals were predictable.

Here's a short qualifying-offer primer: the mandated MLB offer for free agents is calculated as the average annual value for the top 125 contracts in baseball. It's far from a perfect concept, one that replaced the old Type A and Type B compensation system that was unfair to relief pitchers and catchers. The system will likely be tweaked under the new basic agreement between players and owners.

The qualifying offer refusals that most concern Blue Jays fans are, of course, Encarnacion and Bautista. Both star players will still be able to re-sign in Toronto, but now if they sign elsewhere, the Jays will receive compensation in the form of a supplemental pick in the June draft, slotted between the first and second rounds. That seems like small comfort for two of the most popular players at the Rogers Centre in the past decade.

How does the likely loss of two heart-of-the-order hitting stars impact the Jays?

Toronto is dealing with seven additional free agents, some that will make a difference, others not so much: outfielder Michael Saunders, left-hander Brett Cecil, catcher Dioner Navarro and right-handers Joaquin Benoit, Gavin Floyd and Scott Feldman. Free-agent knuckleballer R.A. Dickey already signed a one-year deal, with an option, with the Atlanta Braves.

The value of the Jays' nine free-agent contracts removed from the books adds up to $57.7 million in savings. The

Should Jose Bautista and Edwin Encarnacion sign elsewhere, the Blue Jays will receive compensation in the form of supplemental draft picks. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Jays are also unlikely to offer a contract to catcher Josh Thole. At the recent GM meetings in Arizona, president Mark Shapiro indicated he expects to increase payroll above the $140 million spent on players a year ago, but did not reveal the number.

The Jays have reportedly already agreed to a three-year, $33-million deal with designated hitter Kendrys Morales, and they signed 23-year-old Cuban infield prospect Lourdes Gurriel to a seven-year, $22-million contract.

The biggest area of strength for the Jays is the cost certainty and stability of the starting staff. The Jays have a five-man rotation of left-handers J.A. Happ and Francisco Liriano, and right-handers Marco Estrada, Marcus Stroman and AL ERA leader Aaron Sanchez at a 2017 cost of around $45.5-million. The biggest weaknesses that need to be bolstered by trade or free agency are at the corner outfield spots.

Richard Griffin is a sports columnist with the Toronto Star

IN BRIEF

Ratings spike for NFL's Sunday night matchup

The first Sunday night after the election produced the highest NFL ratings since Week 2, with an average of 22.51 million viewers tuning in for Seattle's 31-24 victory over New England.

NFL ratings have been on the decline this year. One theory has been the election and programs such as debates stole the attention of would-be football viewers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Moyse busts down door to World Rugby Hall of Fame

Heather Moyse, whose achievements include three sports and Olympic gold, takes another remarkable step on her career path this week.

The 38-year-old enters the World Rugby Hall of Fame on Thursday and becomes just the second Canadian player to be so honoured, joining Gareth Rees. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL plans meetings regarding 2018 Olympics

The NHL hopes to inch closer to a decision on the 2018 Olympics later this week.

League officials will meet with the International Ice Hockey Federation in New York on Wednesday.

The league hopes to learn if the International Olympic Committee has budged at all with respect to money issues currently clouding the process.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Babcock content but Leafs still frail on D

NHL

Coach eyeing playoff spot but problems at back persist

The Toronto Maple Leafs remain in the mix for a playoff berth, despite the club's overall inconsistency with defensive play.

And they worked on the latter Monday — tracking checks in the neutral zone, and ramping up the intensity in their own zone — in the hopes it will affect the former.

After a week in which they looked disorganized against two elite teams, Pittsburgh and Los Angeles, the Leafs (6-6-3) were just two points behind Tampa Bay for a playoff berth in the Eastern Conference.

Coach Mike Babcock, drawing on his experience with Detroit, says the Wings annually regarded the 20-game mark of the season as a good barometer for the climb toward the playoffs later in the season.

"If you're out of it (at the 20-game mark), it's a long climb, and we all see how competitive all the teams are now," Babcock said. "But we think we're in a good spot, we like our team, and we think we're going to be better with our younger players. We have a real important five-game segment coming up."

Babcock and the Leafs also realize, behind the scenes, that they are at a minor crossroads with their overall performance.

The team must tighten up defensively. It boasts excellent possession numbers as a team, and is rated seventh in the league at just over 50 per cent in the faceoff circle.

But it has been lodged for several weeks as the league's worst team in shots against, a result of the club's lack of consistency in defensive zone coverage, physical play and communication.

"It wasn't just the defence working on (own-zone details)," Leafs defenceman Roman Polak said about practice Monday. "We were working as a group of five on the ice. Just working with the forwards, facing the puck, being hard on the (opposition check), good pressure on the puck, and reading each other. There has to be communication out there, and we have to improve on that.

"We work on box-outs, and there doesn't have to be a big hit there, just better position, and be first on the puck. But we need to talk a lot in our own zone. We have a younger team, and we need to work on it." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **If you're out of it (at the 20-game mark), it's a long climb, and we all see how competitive all the teams are now. But we think we're in a good spot.** Leafs coach Michael Babcock

Chris Kunitz scores on the Leafs' Frederik Anderson on Saturday night in Pittsburgh. GENE J. PUSKAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RECIPE Roasted Dijon Chicken

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

If you add the roasted flavor with the sweet and spicy mustard sauce you get double the deliciousness in this simple one-pot supper.

Ready in
Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: Xx
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 6 skinless, boneless chicken thighs
- Salt and pepper
- 1 tsp oil
- 1 minced shallot
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 Tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1/4 cup apple cider
- 1/4 cup low-sodium chicken broth

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 425 F. Generously season chicken with salt and pepper.

2. Add oil to a large oven-safe skillet over medium heat. Add chicken and cook for 10 minutes (the meat will not be cooked through).

3. Transfer the skillet to the oven. Roast until chicken is cooked through, about 6-8 minutes.

4. Transfer chicken pieces to a platter. Return skillet to medium heat and add shallots and garlic; cook for about 1 minute. Whisk in Dijon mustard, apple cider, broth and a bit more salt and pepper; cook for about 3 minutes. Return chicken to skillet along with juices that have settled on the platter to rewarm. Serve with your favourite sides.

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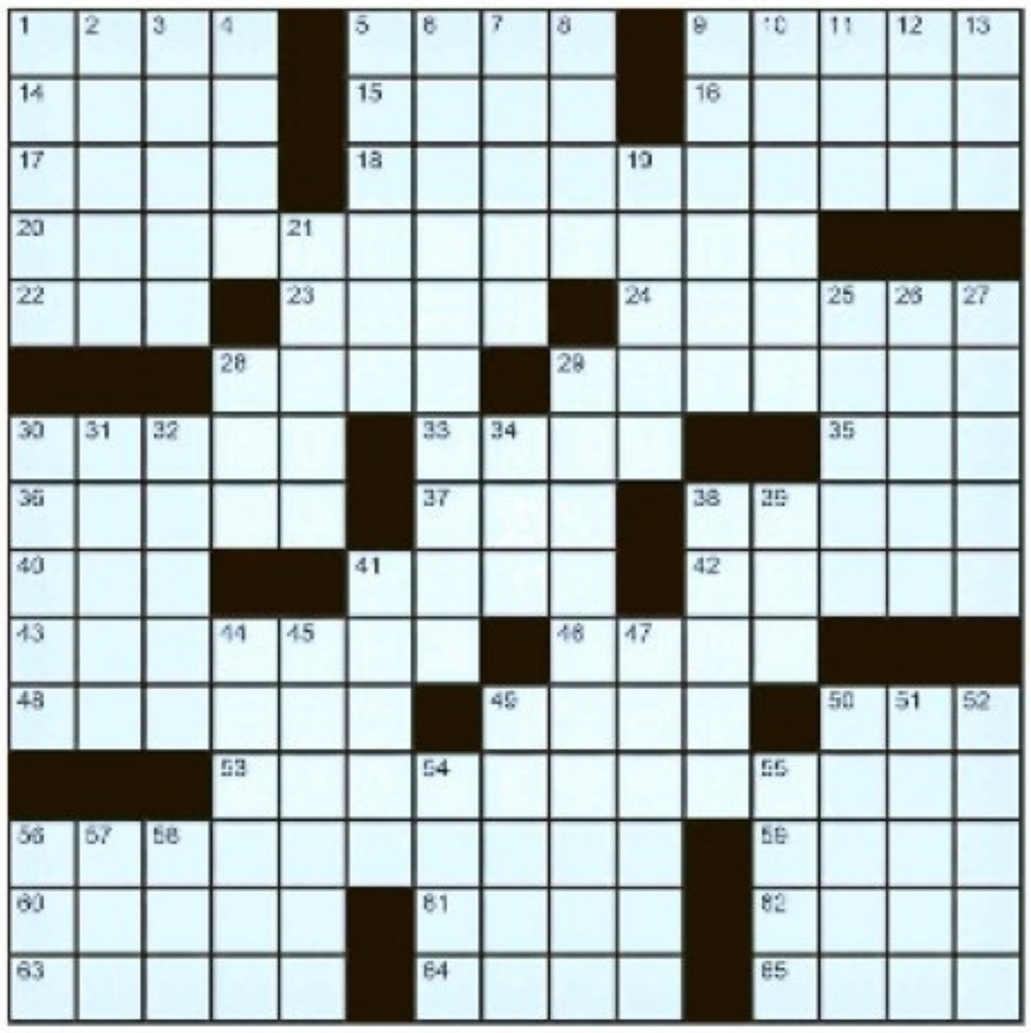
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. _ decision
5. Best-liked, fun-style
9. "_ Frutti" by Little Richard
14. Parlour scoop holder
15. "That's reeeally going to happen.": 2 wds.
16. Workers' group
17. One who must pay
18. Eyewitnesses
20. Toronto-born actor (whose famous actor cousin is Raymond) who starred on the 1990s reboot of TV classic "Lassie" as Dr. Donald Stewart: 2 wds.
22. Certain caustic
23. Eyeglasses parts
24. From Madonna's "La Isla Bonita": "When it's time for _ you can watch them go by..."
28. _ and for all
29. Message transmitters
30. Rigoletto opera composer
33. Diplomacy
35. Putrefaction
36. Give off, as confidence
37. River inlet
38. ATM-user's motion with the card, maybe
40. Total
41. _ pickles
42. Not-leaving prisoner
43. Nutrition related
46. Radiate
48. Overseas
49. Barge _ _ (Intrude)
50. Even if, briefly
53. Carriage-pulling horses for The Royals of Britain: 2 wds.
56. Leftover flavour
59. Italian harp
60. Scottish estate proprietor
61. Car's fill-up
62. Long journey
63. Old West prop
64. Della Reese's role on "Touched by an Angel"
65. Hall & Oates' "_ Smile"

DOWN
1. Fiercely frown
2. "Never.": 2 wds.
3. Anoint, olde-style
4. Chipper
5. Material
6. Not balanced, as per patterns or arrangements
7. Travel endorsements
8. Immature newts
9. Listen to the "Mr. Dressup"
25. Font flourish
26. Figure of speech
27. Michaelmas daisy
28. Not even, as numbers
29. Do, Re and Mi and more: 2 wds.
30. Roman goddess of the hearth
31. Outlying residential area
32. Hearsay, States-style
34. Feel flu-ish
38. Biblical weapon
39. Drollness
41. Billy Joel hit: "We _ Start the Fire"
44. Strengths
45. The Rachel, in the 1990s, for one
47. Gourmet mushrooms
49. Debated topic
50. The earth
51. Overly active
52. City of canals in Japan
54. Electro music's _ Punk
55. City rodents
56. Completely
57. Air travel overseer [acronym]
58. Poetic contraction
radio: 2 wds.
10. Like naturally-hued hair
11. Bond
12. Maple Leafs city, wee-ly
13. Ruler measurements, e.g.
19. Strong point
21. Mr. Coombs of

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a great day for study and intellectual discussions. It's also an excellent day to pursue opportunities in publishing, the media, medicine and the law.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Travel for pleasure appeals. Investigate how the wealth and resources of others can help you get what you want.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is a positive day for you, because fiery Mars is energizing your ruler, Mercury. Naturally, conversations with partners and close friends will be lively!

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You will take a hands-on approach to your job today because you are full of bright ideas that you want to implement. It's a good day to talk to co-workers.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You are a creative sign, and today is a creative day for you! Act on your artistic urges. Enjoy playful activities with younger people.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You have lots of energy for family discussions and practical projects like home improvements. This is a good day to tackle home repairs and plan how to better secure where you live.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
) Today you are talkative, lively, energetic and interested in everything around you. This is a great day to meet new faces and see new places, because you are up for anything!

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Trust your moneymaking ideas today, because you have lots of mental energy to think about earnings and cash flow. You also will be persuasive in financial discussions.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Today Mercury is in your sign, dancing with fiery Mars. This makes you intellectually sharp, curious and verbally adroit. You can sell snow to the Eskimos!

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
This is a wonderful day for research of any kind, because not only are you mentally keen, you have lots of energy to seek out solutions to old problems and to find hidden answers.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Conversations with friends and groups will be successful today, because you know what you want to say and you won't hesitate to say it. People want to join your team!

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
This is a good day to talk to bosses, parents and VIPs about what you want, because people will listen to you today.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

	5		9	4	6		2	
4	3					5		7
				7			4	
8			6					2
3		4				6		1
9					4			5
	1			6				
5		6					8	3
	4		5	2	3		1	

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2	8	6	7	3	9	4	5	1
9	5	1	4	2	6	7	8	3
8	4	2	9	1	5	6	3	7
5	3	9	6	4	7	1	2	8
6	1	7	2	8	3	5	9	4
7	2	5	3	9	1	8	4	6
4	6	8	5	7	2	3	1	9
1	9	3	8	6	4	2	7	5

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